

Inventory Number: HA- 380 Abrahams/Nicholson House Harford County, Maryland Susquehanna State Park C. Mazurek 01/03/00

### Capsule Summary

The Abrahams/Nicholson House is located at 622 Stafford Road, in Lapidum, Harford County, Maryland within the boundaries of Susquehanna State Park. This structure dates from the late Nineteenth century and has many of the hallmarks of Victorian architecture such as bay windows, centered gables, and large 1/1 sash windows. This is one of the few remaining survivors of the town of Lapidum which was laid out in 1868 by Conrad Baker Lapidum. This house is scheduled to be razed by the Department of Natural Resources due to the dilapidated condition and lack of adequate heating, electrical, and sewage systems.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. HA - 380

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)	
historic Abrahams House	
other Nicholson House	
2. Location	
street & number 622 Stafford Road	not for publication
city, town Lapidum	vicinity
county Harford	
3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing address	ses of <u>all</u> owners)
name Maryland Department of Natural Resources	
street & number Tawes State Office Building, 580 Taylor Avenue	telephone (410) 260-8192
city, town Annapolis	state and zip code Maryland 21401
4. Location of Legal Description	2
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse	tax map and parcel
city, town Bel Air	liber and folio GRG 410,556
5. Primary Location of Additional Data	
Individually Listed in the National Register/Maryland Register Contributing Resource in National Register District  X Contributing Resource in Local Historic District Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register Recorded by HABS/HAER HSR or Research report at MHT Other:	
6. Classification	
structure both culture site defense religio object domestic social education transp funerary work i government unkno	reation/ buildings sites on objects ortation Total on progress own Number of Contributing Resources of those in use previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description		Survey No HA- 380
Condition           excellent           good           X fair	deteriorated ruins altered	

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Abrahams/Nicholson House is located at 622 Stafford Road, in Lapidum, Harford County, Maryland. This structure is located within Susquehanna State Park, and is situated directly in front of the Susquehanna River and the rear facade is situated next to a rocky hillside that had been excavated to accommodate this house.

This Victorian structure is two stories tall with a full attic, no basement, and a fieldstone foundation. A front porch extends the whole length of the front (east) facade and a two story bay window is located on the south facade. Windows on the first two floors vary between 2/2 sash and 1/1 sash. It is constructed of frame and the exterior is covered with wood cedar shingles that have weathered to a dark brown color. The roof has a large centered gable facing the River with one window located in the gable, which has a distinctive sash construction of three lights on the top, and two lights on the bottom. On the two other gables, on the north and south facades, there are also similar windows located in these which allow a lot of light to enter the interior attic space. Two brick chimneys are on the roof, one centered in the roof and one located on the northern roof end.

The interior on the first floor consists of three separate living areas, a living room, a dining room, and a long galley style kitchen. On the end of the kitchen (north side) is a rectangular storage room. Around these areas the stairway that leads to the second floor is centrally located in the house. The second floor has three bedrooms and a bathroom. Wood floors are located throughout.

Next to the house about 50 feet away to the south of the main house is a one car garage that is covered with the same wood cedar shingles as the main house. The foundation is constructed of rubble stone and there are three paneled doors with windows that face the northern facade of the house.

The house location is crammed onto the site with the front porch (east) with no setback, almost literally on the road. Across the street is the remnants of the Chesapeake and Tidewater Canal, which was filled in with dirt and is now a grassy area abutting the Susquehanna River. The rear of the main house is set into the hillside with a low fieldstone retaining wall on the western edge of the structure. Between the house and the wall is a small fuel tank.

This house is scheduled to be razed due to its dilapidated condition and its inadequate heating, sewage, and electrical systems. The house has not been in the Department of Natural Resources rental program since the early 1990's.

8. Signific	ance		Survey No. HA-380	8
Period1600-16991700-1799x1800-18991900-1999	Areas of Significance agriculture archeologyx architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	Check and justify below	health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates		Builder/Architect		
Evaluation for:  National Re	egister Maryland F	Register not eval	luated	

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, and a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, discuss evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual).

- \* See the existing Section 8 historic information from the Maryland Inventory Form for Historic Sites Survey from 1979.
- \*Additional Information: This house is no longer an active rental property of the Department of Natural Resources, due to the deteriorated conditions of the structure and is scheduled to be torn down.

HA- 380

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

\_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE \_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING

\_\_CONSERVATION

\_LAW

\_\_RELIGION

\_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC \_1400-1499 \_1500-1599

\_SCIENCE

1979 INVENTORY FORM.

699

PERIOD

\_\_PREHISTORIC

AGRICULTURE

ECONOMICS \_LITERATURE \_MILITARY

\_SCULPTURE

\_1700-1799

\_1900-

X\_ARCHITECTURE \_ART

\_EDUCATION \_ENGINEERING \_MUSIC \_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

X 1800-1899

-XCOMMERCE \_\_COMMUNICATIONS

\_ARCHEULUGY-PREHISTORIC

\_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

\_\_PHILOSOPHY \_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

\_THEATER X TRANSPORTATION

\_INDUSTRY \_INVENTION \_OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Abrahams house is a typical rural Victorian dwelling. This house and the Pugh House (HA381) are the survivors of the small late-19th century community of Lapidum, laid out in 1868 by Conrad Baker Lapidum. Other structures includes the Lapidum Masons' Lodge and School, and the Lapidum Inn, and Lapidum Methodist Church.

The following information collected by Paul Penrod, The attached title search was also executed by Penrod.

"This house was constructed during the latter part of the 19th century. One of its earliest owners was John J. Abrahams, who appears on the 1878 Martenet Map. site of the structure was part of the parcel of land that Samuel Gover divided into small lots and sold during the early 1800's. This particular plot was owned at one time by William Sappington, who along with Robert Bell worked several stone quarries in the area. Another pragment of the property was owned by Charles & Isaac Willey, both of whom were barge captains on the river and tidewater canal. Another portion of the property was owned by the Mahan Family. In 1804, Elizabeth Mahan donated one ac for the construction of a Plaster Mill which was a cooperative venture of the "Farmers' Society of Harford County," surpervised by the Rev. William Stevenson and John Quarles. The Mill was a two-storey, stone-grame affair, with a horse-powered grinder. Gypsum was landed at a nearby wharf and ground by the members of the Society."

### RECOMMENDATIONS

This modest, late 19th century dwelling is currently an active rental property of the Department of Natural Resources. This structure should continue as such as long as it remains properly tenanted.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. HA- 380

Name				
Continua	tion S	Sheet		
Number _	8	_ Page _	2	

#### HISTORIC CONTEXT:

#### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning.

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment : Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Housing

Known Design Source: Unknown

9.	Major	Bibliographical	References
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Survey No. HA- 380

1	0.	Geo	gra	phica	I Data
-	_				THE STREET STREET, STR

Acreage of surveyed property \_\_Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Aberdeen

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

From the edge of Lapidum road on the east, to the rocky hillside on the west, to the wood frame garage on the south, to the Pugh House on the north.

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charlie Mazurek, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization MD Department of Natural Resources

date 4/98; Revised 01/03/00

street & number Tawes State Office Building, 580 Taylor Avenue

telephone (410) 260-8192

city or town Annapolis

state and zip code MD 21401

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville, MD 21032-2 023

410-514-7646

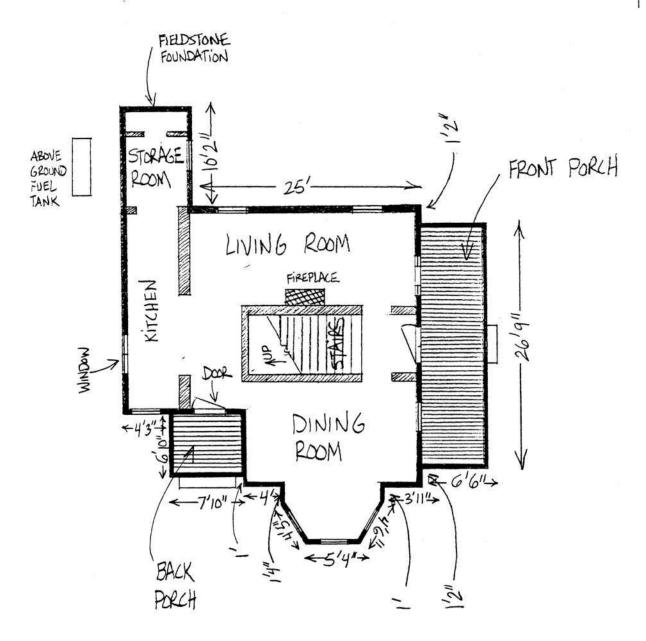
DHCD/DHCP

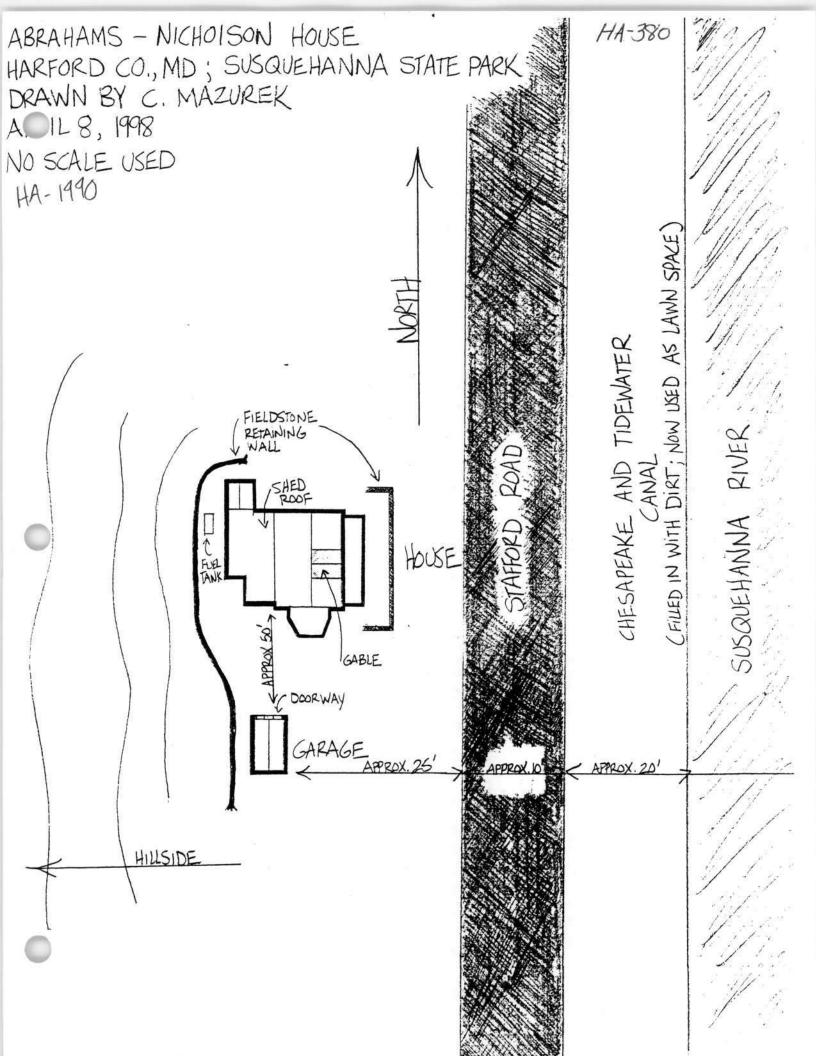
James W. Nicholson House

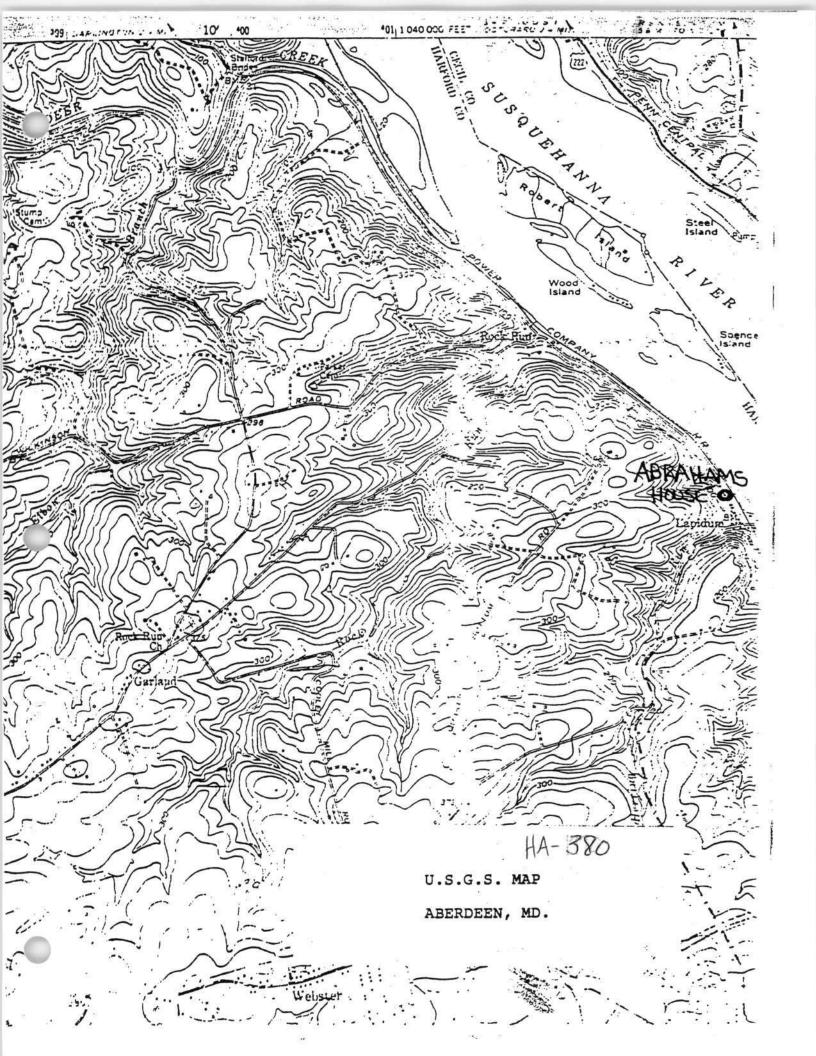
ore		Folio	
ੁੈ <b>R</b> G	410	556	In 1954, Aaron R. Grayce sold James W. Nicholson 3.2 acres in Lapidum.
GRG	394	583	In 1953 Aaron R. Grayce mortgaged from Amos R. Farst 3.2 acres in Lapidum.
GCB	252	414	In 1944, Gertrude H. Aument, widow, sold 3.2 acres to Amos R. Farst.
GCB	257	74	In 1939, Harriet and William V. Spencer sold the 3.2 acres to to W.L. and Gertrude Aument.
JAR	142	285	In 1913, William V. Spencer sold a thirteen acre plot in Lapidum to his wife, Harriet.
WSF	127	141	In 1909, Philene W. and Joseph L. Knight sold William V. Spencer the thirteen acres, more or less.
WSF	82	106	In 1894, Margaret E. L. Abrahams sold the thirteen acres, more or less, to Philena W. Knight. This deed mentions a burial plot on the premises belonging to Amelia V. Spencer.
wsr ()	<b>7</b> 9	257	In 1892, Woodward W. Abrahams bought the thirteen acres, more or less, from Robert H. Mitchell, collector of taxes. Woodward was obliged to purchase the land from John Abrahams via a public sale.
, whd	16	313	In 1864, William Pinkney Whyte was appointed as a trustee for the tract and sold it to Woodward and John J. Abrahams as tenants in common. The parcel measured ten acres, more or less. The land had been previously owned by a Howes Goldsborough, by then deceased, and in this deed it is also mentioned that there was an old plaster mill on the property.
			Goldsborough acquired the land from three different sources:
HD	<b>.,6</b>	434	L. Charles Willey sold a tract of what was once part of the Land of Promise to Howes Goldsborough in 1823. Isaac Willey had purchased this particular section in 1807 from Samuel Gover, and had left the four acres involved to his son, Charles in
			1820.
HD	T	: 3 <u>4</u>	Samuel Gover sold the four acres of the Land of Promise to Isaac Willey in 1807. Gover's landholdings have already been discussed.

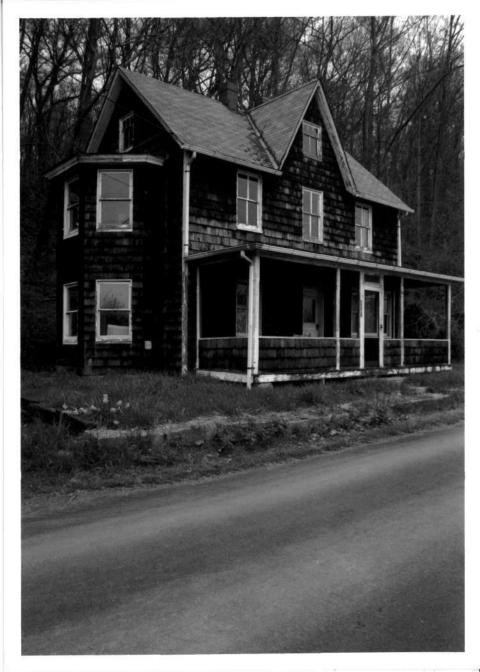
ABRAHAMS - NICHOISON HOUSE HARFORD CO., MD; SUSQUEHANNA STATE PARK DRAWN BY C. MAZUREK AF L 8, 1998 3/32 SCALE

NORTH









HA- 380 ABRAHAMS/ NICHOLSON HOUSE; SUSQUEHANNA STATE PARK HARFORD CO, MID C. MAZUZEK 3/1998 DEPT, OF NATURAL RISURCES S.E. ELEVATIONS OF HUNE; FRONT FACANE

10F)



A-380 ARABERT 1 TILLIA ROLLE ! TELLIS ! I WILL STATE PARK HARFORI CO, 115 CANZIEK 3/199 DEPT, OF NATURAL RESOURCE N.E. ELEVATIONS OF GARAGE; VIEW FROM ROW 2042

Survey No. HA - 386

## Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)	
historic Abrahams House	3
other Nicholson House	
2. Location	Y Y
street & number 622 Stafford Road	not for publication
city, town Lapidum	vicinity
county Harford	
3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addr	resses of all owners)
name Maryland Department of Natural Resources	E E
street & number 580 Taylor Avenue, Tawes State Office Building	telephone (410) 260-8186
city, town Annapolis	state and zip code Maryland, 21401
4. Location of Legal Description	-1 <sub>6</sub>
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse	tax map and parcel
city, town Bel Air	liber and folio GRG 410, 556
5. Primary Location of Additional Data	
Individually Listed in the National Register/Maryland Register Contributing Resource in National Register District Contributing Resource in Local Historic District Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register Recorded by HABS/HAER HSR or Research report at MHT Other:	
6. Classification	

	object		education funerary government health care industry	transportation work in progress unknown x vacant/not in use other:	Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
7. [	Descrip	tion	_		Survey No. HA - 380

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

\*See the existing Maryland Inventory Form For State Historic Sites Survey from 1979.

8. Signific Period 	Areas of Significance agriculture archeology x architecture art x commerce	Check and justify below economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation	Survey No. HA - 38  health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law	performing arts philosophy politics/governmen religion science
Specific dates	communications community planning conservation	ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement  Builder/Architect	literature maritime history military	social history _x transportation _ other:
Evaluation for:  National R	egister <b>≰</b> Maryland F	Register X not eva	luated	
			plicable criteria, and a narrative on a DOE Form - see manual).	discussion of the history

\*See the existing Maryland Inventory Form For Historic Sites Survey from 1979.

Additional Information:

This house is no longer an active rental property of the Department of Natural Resources, due to the deteriorated conditions of the structure.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. HA -380

Name				
Continua	tion S	Sheet		
Number _	8	_ Page _	2	

#### HISTORIC CONTEXT:

#### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning.

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Housing

Known Design Source: None

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA -386

10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of surveyed property		
Quadrangle name	 Quadrangle scale	
Verbal boundary description and justification	 	

11. Form Prepared By

name/title C.Mazurek, Historic Sites Surveyor

date 4/98

organization Maryland Department of Natural Resources

80 81

street & number 580 Taylor Avenue, Tawes State Office Building

telephone 410 260-8192

city or town Annapolis

state and zip code Maryland 21401

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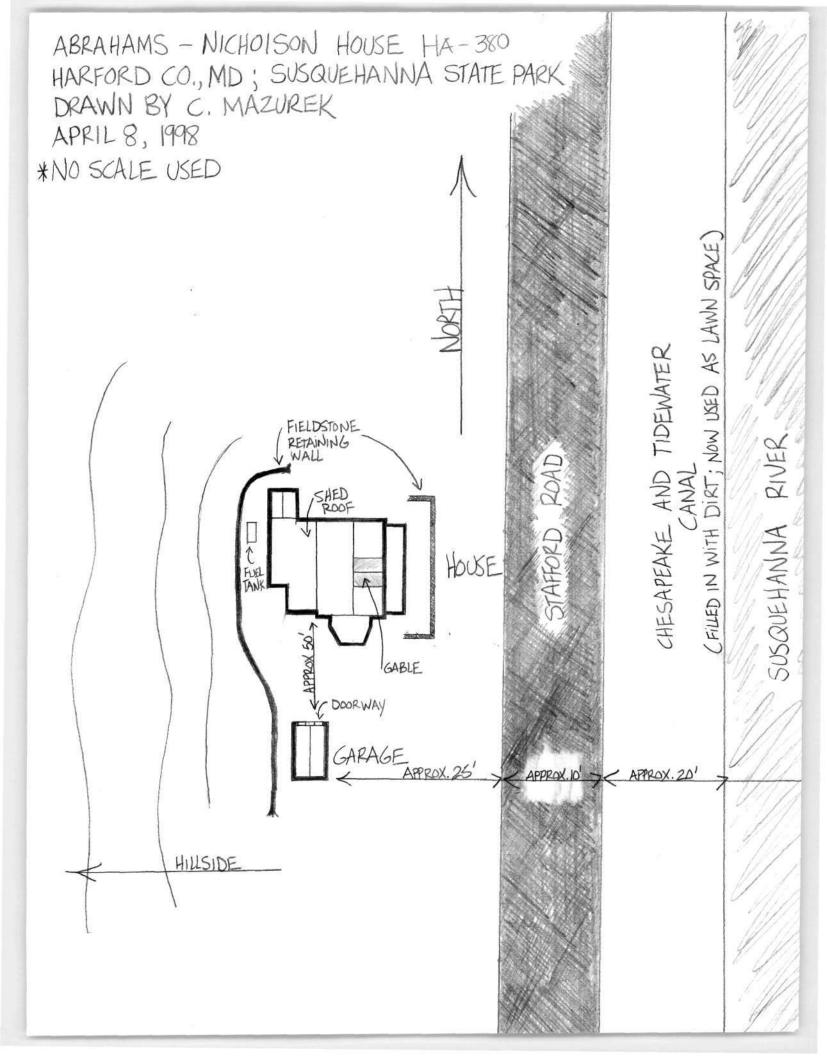
Maryland Historical Trust

DHCD/DHCP

100 Community Place

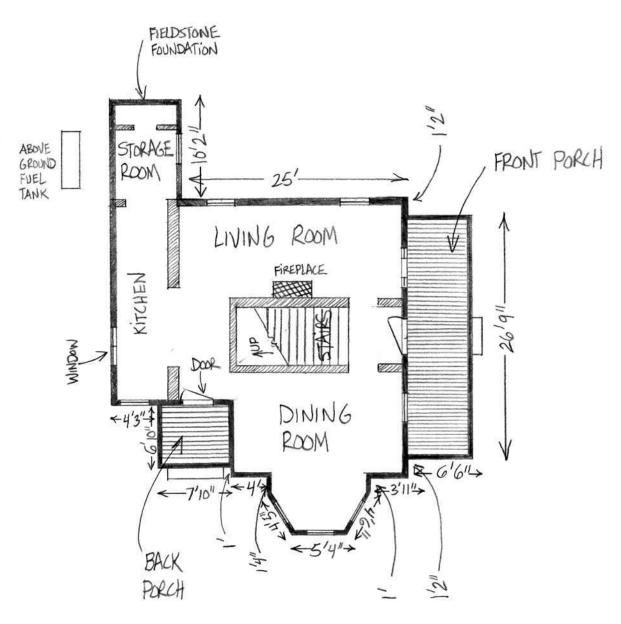
Crownsville, MD 21032-2 023

410-514-7646

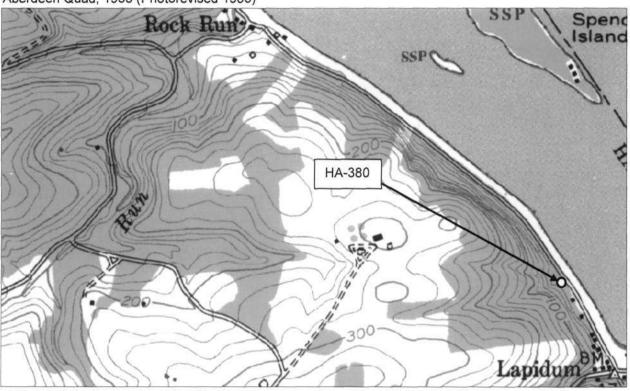


ABRAHAMS - NICHOISON HOUSE HA-360 HARFORD CO., MD; SUSQUEHANNA STATE PARK DRAWN BY C. MAZUREK APRIL 8, 1998 3/32 SCALE





HA-380 Abrahams House (James Nicholson Pugh House) 622 Stafford Road, Havre de Grace, 21078 Aberdeen Quad, 1953 (Photorevised 1985)



National Web Map Service 6" OPM, 2007-08

Bing Maps Bird's Eye View image, c. 2010





HA - 380

ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES VIEW TO THE EAST OF 27



HA-380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES CONSTRUCTION DETAIL ( NORTH FACADE) 2 OF 27



HA - 380

ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES VIEW TO THE EAST 3 OF 27



HA 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DUPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES SOUTH FACADE 40427



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES EAST FACADE 5 OF 27



ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES VIEW OF SITE (FACING WEST) 6 OF 27



AA-380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZURUK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES VIEW FACING NORTH 7 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NicHolson Hs. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES N.E. FACADES OF GARAGE 8 OF 27



ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES N.E FACADES 9 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON Hs. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DOOT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES DETAIL OF MOLDING (KT FLOOR DINING ROOM) 10 of 27



HA -380 ABRAHAMS- NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DODT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES ATTIC (FACING EAST) 1 0F 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL PESOURCES ATTIL ( FACING SOUTH) 12 OF 27



PA -380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON 45. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES FRONT DOOR DETAIL

13 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES SECOND FLOOR BEDROOM (FACING N.W.) 14 OF 27



HA-380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES KITCHEN (FACING SOUTH) 15 OF 27



HA-380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES KITCHEN (FACING NORTH) 16 OF 27



HA -380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES DINING ROOM (FACING WEST) 17 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES SECOND FLOOR, ENTRANCE TO ATTIC. 18 OF 27



HA -380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES SECOND FLOOR BEDROOM (FACING WEST) 19 OF 27



HA -380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES FIRST FLOOR, FIREPLACE 20 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD (O., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES HALLWAY, (FACING EAST) 21 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES DINING ROOM (FACING WEST) 22 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS- NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES SECOND FLOOR BEDROOM, (FAKING N.W.) 23 OF 27



HA - 280 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK 4/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES FLOOR CONSTRUCTION IN STORAGE ROOM 24 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS-NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES FLOOR CONSTRUCTION IN STORAGE ROOM 15 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS HARFORD (O., MD C. MAZUREK 4/48 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES SECOND FLOOR BATHROOM 26 OF 27



HA - 380 ABRAHAMS - NICHOLSON HS. HARFORD CO., MD C. MAZUREK MD DEPT. OF NATURAL BESOURCES SECOND FLOOR BATTHROOM 27 OF 27

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST



HISTORIC				
11- 22-1-1	rahams House			
AND/OR COMMON Ni	cholson House			
LOCATION	J			
STREET & NUMBER	622 Stafford Road			
CITY, TOWN	Lapidum	. VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DIST First	RICT
STATE	Maryland		COUNTY Harford	
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORYDISTRICT	OWNERSHIP  X_PUBLIC	STATUS -XOCCUPIED	PRES	SENT USE
XBUILDING(S)  STRUCTURE  SITE  OBJECT	PRIVATE BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITION IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED	UNOCCUPIEDWORK IN PROGRESS ACCESSIBLEYES: RESTRICTEDYES: UNRESTRICTED	COMMERCIALEDUCATIONALENTERTAINMENTGOVERNMENTINDUSTRIAL	XPARK XPRIVATE RESIDEN RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATIO
OWNER O	FPROPERTY	X_NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
NAME Depar	rtment of Natural Reso	ources	Telephone #:	OTHER:
NAME Depar STREET & NUMBER Tawes		ources	Telephone #:	OTHER:
STREET & NUMBER Tawes CITY. TOWN Annaj  LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	rtment of Natural Resons State Office Building	ources  ng VICINITY OF  RIPTION	Telephone #:	zip code 21401
STREET & NUMBER Tawes CITY, TOWN Annaj	rtment of Natural Reserved State Office Building	ources  ng VICINITY OF  RIPTION	Telephone #:  STATE, :  Maryland  Liber #: GRG 41	zip code 21401
Deparement of De	rtment of Natural Resons State Office Building	ources  ng VICINITY OF  RIPTION	Telephone #:  STATE, :  Maryland  Liber #: GRG 41	zip cođe 21401
STREET & NUMBER Tawes CITY. TOWN Annaj LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	rtment of Natural Reserved State Office Building polis  NOF LEGAL DESCRI	ources  ng  VICINITY OF  RIPTION  Courthouse	Telephone #:  STATE, Maryland  Liber #: GRG 41 Folio #: 55	zip code 21401
STREET & NUMBER Tawes CITY, TOWN Annay  LOCATION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN  REPRESEN	rtment of Natural Reserved State Office Building polis  NOF LEGAL DESCRETE Harford County  Bel Air	ources  ng  VICINITY OF  RIPTION  Courthouse  ING SURVEYS	Telephone #:  STATE, Maryland  Liber #: GRG 41 Folio #: 55  STATE Maryland	zip code 21401 .0 .6
STREET & NUMBER Tawes CITY, TOWN Annaj LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN  REPRESEN TITLE	rtment of Natural Reserved State Office Building polis  NOF LEGAL DESCRETE Harford County  Bel Air	ources  ng  VICINITY OF  RIPTION  Courthouse  ING SURVEYS	Telephone #:  STATE, Maryland  Liber #: GRG 41 Folio #: 55	zip code 21401 .0 .6

CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

X UNALTERED \_\_ALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE

\_MOVED DATE\_

X<sub>GOOD</sub> \_RUINS \_\_UNEXPOSED \_FAIR

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Abrahams House, located on the west side of Stafford Road north of its intersection with Herring Run, is a two-storey three bay wide, one bay deep wood-shingled structure dating from the final quarter of the 19th century. A shed-roofed, lower two-storey addition spans the rear (west) facade. A corbel-capped brick chimney is centrally located on the ashalt-shingled gable roof. The house sits on a low fieldstone foundation.

The main (east) facade is defined by a central doorway flanked by 2/2 sashed windows on the first storey. Three 2/2 sashed windows mark the corresponding openings of the second storey. All windows have simple wooden surrounds with flush wooden sills. A semi-enclosed, half-hipped-roofed porch spans the first storey. A central gable with a multi-paned fixed-sash small window further defines the facade. Plain cornerboards outline the facade.

The north facade is very straight forward: windows with 2/2 sash are centrally located on the first and second storeys as well as a smaller 3/2 fixed sashed window at the attic level. Again, windows possess a simple wooden trim. The south facade however has received a more elaborate treatment. A two storey, tri-partite bay projects from this gable end. Windows with 1/1 sash mark the sides of both storeys. A heavily molded cornice surrounds the addition. A smaller 3/2 fixed sashed window is centrally located at the attic level.

A one storey gable roofed garage also of wood-shingled construction is found to the south of the main structure.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	_SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X 1800-1899	XCOMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	<b>X</b> TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

#### SPECIFIC DATES

#### BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Abrahams house is a typical rural Victorian dwelling. This house and the Pugh House (HA381) are the survivors of the small late-19th century community of Lapidum, laid out in 1868 by Conrad Baker Lapidum. Other structures includes the Lapidum Masons' Lodge and School, and the Lapidum Inn, and Lapidum Methodist Church.

The following information collected by Paul Penrod, The attached title search was also executed by Penrod.

"This house was constructed during the latter part of the 19th century. One of its earliest owners was John J. Abrahams, who appears on the 1878 Martenet Map. The site of the structure was part of the parcel of land that Samuel Gover divided into small lots and sold during the early 1800's. This particular plot was owned at one time by William Sappington, who along with Robert Bell worked several stone quarries in the area. Another pragment of the property was owned by Charles & Isaac Willey, both of whom were barge captains on the river and tidewater canal. Another portion of the property was owned by the Mahan Family. In 1804, Elizabeth Mahan donated one acre for the construction of a Plaster Mill which was a cooperative venture of the "Farmers' Society of Harford County," surpervised by the Rev. William Stevenson and John Quarles. The Mill was a two-storey, stone-grame affair, with a horse-powered grinder. Gypsum was landed at a nearby wharf and ground by the members of the Society."

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

This modest, late 19th century dwelling is currently an active rental property of the Department of Natural Resources. This structure should continue as such as long as it remains properly tenanted.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSA	ARY
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	×
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OV	/ERI APPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
E.O. ALE OTATEO AND GOOM TEST ON THOT ENTIES OF	VENEATTING STATE ON COOKITY BOOKDANIES
STATE	UNTY
10.5	
STATE CO	UNTY
11 FORM PREPARED BY	
NAME / TITLE	
Bridget M. Deale, Historic Sites	Surveyor
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Maryland Historical Trust	1979
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
21 State Circle	(301)269-2438 STATE
5500758655168 W1087-W1077	
Annapolis	Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

### SUSQUEHANNA STATE PARK PROPERTY

James W. Nicholson House

Libre	Đ.	<u>Folio</u>	
GRG	410	556	In 1954, Aaron R. Grayce sold James W. Nicholson 3.2 acres in Lapidum.
GRG	394	583	In 1953 Aaron R. Grayce mortgaged from Amos R. Farst 3.2 acres in Lapidum.
GCB	252	414	In 1944, Gertrude H. Aument, widow, sold 3.2 acres to Amos R. Farst.
GCB	257	714	In 1939, Harriet and William V. Spencer sold the 3.2 acres to to W.L. and Gertrude Aument.
JAR	142	285	In 1913, William V. Spencer sold a thirteen acre plot in Lapidum to his wife, Harriet.
WSF	127	141	In 1909, Philene W. and Joseph L. Knight sold William V. Spencer the thirteen acres, more or less.
WSF	82	106	In 1894, Margaret E. L. Abrahams sold the thirteen acres, more or less, to Philena W. Knight. This deed mentions a burial plot on the premises belonging to Amelia V. Spencer.
WSF	<b>7</b> 9	257	In 1892, Woodward W. Abrahams bought the thirteen acres, more or less, from Robert H. Mitchell, collector of taxes. Woodward was obliged to purchase the land from John Abrahams via a public sale.
WHD	16	313	In 1864, William Pinkney Whyte was appointed as a trustee for the tract and sold it to Woodward and John J. Abrahams as tenants in common. The parcel measured ten acres, more or less. The land had been previously owned by a Howes Goldsborough, by then deceased, and in this deed it is also mentioned that there was an old plaster mill on the property.
			Goldsborough acquired the land from three different sources:
HD	<b>6</b>	434	L. Charles Willey sold a tract of what was once part of the Land of Promise to Howes Goldsborough in 1823. Isaac Willey had purchased this particular section in 1807 from Samuel Gover, and had left the four acres involved to his son, Charles in 1820.
HD	- <b>T</b>	·84	Samuel Gover sold the four acres of the Land of Promise to Isaac Willey in 1807. Gover's landholdings have already been discussed.

. "

libre	2	<u>Folio</u>	
HD	8	220	2.In 1825, Charles Willey sold a two acre, 21 perch portion of the Land of Promise to Howes Goldsborough.
HD	ų	481	In 1820, James E. Mahan conveyed to Charles Willey a piece of the Land of Promise, measuring two acres and 21 perches, more or less. Before this time, the land was probably in the Mahan family and most likely originated from Samuel Gover's holdings.
HD	12	76	3.William Sappington sold a three acre, two rood, 34 perch section of the Land of Promise to Howes Goldsborough in 1829.
, HD	9	9	Isaac Willey sold several parts of his property to William Sappington in 1825, totalling eleven acres, more or less.
HD	S	366	In 1806, Samuel Gover sold Isaac Willey a part of the Land of Promise that measured seven and one-quarter acre, more or less.

Samuel Gover acquired these parcels by virtue of a deed from his father, Gerrard, in 1797 (JIG N 167).

### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1303804604 HA-380

See revised form

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

NAME				
HISTORIC	Abrahams House			
AND/OR COMMON	James Nicholson Hou	se		
LOCATION	1			
STREET & NUMBER	622 Stafford Road			
CITY, TOWN	Lapidum		CONGRESSIONAL DIST	
STATE	Maryland	VICINITY OF	COUNTY Harford	First
CLASSIFIC	CATION			
CATEGORY  DISTRICT  BUILDING(S)  STRUCTURE  SITE  OBJECT	OWNERSHIP  _PUBLIC  X_PRIVATE  _BOTH  PUBLIC ACQUISITION  _IN PROCESS	STATUS  X_OCCUPIED  _UNOCCUPIED  _WORK IN PROGRESS  ACCESSIBLE  X_YES: RESTRICTED	PRES AGRICULTURECOMMERCIALEDUCATIONALENTERTAINMENTGOVERNMENTINDUSTRIAL	MUSEUM —PARK —PRIVATE RESIDENT —RELIGIOUS —SCIENTIFIC —TRANSPORTATION
OWNER O	BEING CONSIDERED F PROPERTY	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO	MILITARY	OTHER:
NAME James V	F PROPERTY  V. Nicholson			
NAME James V	F PROPERTY		MILITARY Telephone #:	_OTHER:
James V STREET & NUMBER 3523 Sc CITY. TOWN	F PROPERTY  V. Micholson  choolhouse Lane  sburg	_NO	MILITARY  Telephone #:  STATE, :	
James V STREET & NUMBER 3523 Sc CITY. TOWN	F PROPERTY  V. Nicholson  Choolhouse Lane  Sburg  OF LEGAL DESCR	_NO  VICINITY OF  RIPTION	Telephone #:  STATE, : Pa. 1  Liber #: GRG	_OTHER:
James V STREET & NUMBER 3523 Sc CITY. TOWN Harris LOCATION COURTHOUSE,	F PROPERTY  V. Nicholson  choolhouse Lane  sburg  N OF LEGAL DESCR	_NO  VICINITY OF  RIPTION  Ourthouse	Telephone #:  STATE, : Pa. 1  Liber #: GRG	_OTHER:
NAME  James V  STREET & NUMBER  3523 Sc  CITY. TOWN  Harris  LOCATION  COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	F PROPERTY  V. Nicholson  Choolhouse Lane  Sburg  N OF LEGAL DESCR	_NO  VICINITY OF  RIPTION  Ourthouse	Telephone #:  STATE,: Pa. 1  Liber #: GRG   Folio #:	_отнея: zip code 7107 410 556
STREET & NUMBER 3523 SC CITY. TOWN Harris  LOCATION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER  CITY, TOWN	F PROPERTY  V. Nicholson  choolhouse Lane  sburg  N OF LEGAL DESCR	_NO  VICINITY OF RIPTION  ourthouse reet	Telephone #:  STATE,: Pa. 1  Liber #: GRG   Folio #:	_OTHER:
STREET & NUMBER 3523 SC CITY. TOWN Harris  LOCATION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER  CITY, TOWN	F PROPERTY  J. Nicholson  Choolhouse Lane  Sburg  N OF LEGAL DESCR  ETC. Harford County Count	_NO  VICINITY OF RIPTION  ourthouse reet	Telephone #:  STATE,: Pa. 1  Liber #: GRG   Folio #:	OTHER: zip code 71.07 410 556
STREET & NUMBER 3523 SC CITY. TOWN Harris LOCATION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESEN	F PROPERTY  J. Nicholson  Choolhouse Lane  Sburg  N OF LEGAL DESCR  ETC. Harford County Count	VICINITY OF RIPTION Courthouse reet	Telephone #:  STATE,: Pa. 1  Liber #: GRG   Folio #:	_OTHER:
STREET & NUMBER 3523 SC CITY. TOWN Harris LOCATION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESEN TITLE	F PROPERTY  J. Nicholson  Choolhouse Lane  Sburg  N OF LEGAL DESCR  ETC. Harford County Count	VICINITY OF RIPTION Courthouse reet	Telephone #:  STATE,  Pa 1  Liber #: GRG    Folio #:	_OTHER:

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE

GOOD \_\_FAIR

\_RUINS

XALTERED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_\_MOVED

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This Victorian structure is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories tall, with a shed-roofed two-story addition in the rear. This east-facing structure is covered with wood shingles and has a low granite foundation. There is a two-story bay window on the southern end of the house, which is three bays by two. The fairly recent windows are 2 X 2 (1 X 1 in the bays), while the attic windows on the southern and northern gables are 3 X 1. One door is located on the east wall of the house, facing the river, while the other is sited on the south side of the addition. The roof is an asphalt-covered gable flank, with a box cornice and long eaves. The typical high-peaked dormer with a 3 X 1 window in it is located in the center of the roof on the east side. The new brick chimneys are stationed on the ridgeline at the center of the roof. A screened porch encompasses the entire front of the house.

\_OTHER (SPECIFY)

PERIOD	AF			
_PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
_1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	_SCIENCE
_1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	_SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800-1899	<b>∠COMMERCE</b>	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	X TRANSPORTATION

INDUSTRY

\_INVENTION

\_COMMUNICATIONS

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

#### SPECIFIC DATES

1900-

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was constructed during the latter part of the Nineteenth Century. One of it's earlisst owners was John J. Abrahams, who appears on the 1878 Martenet Map The site of the structure was part of the parcel of land that Samuel Gover divided into small lots and sold during the early 1800's. This particular plot was owned at one time by William Sappington, who along with Robert Bell, worked several stone quarries in the ares. Another fragment of the property was owned by Charles and Isaac Willey, both of whom were barge captains on the river and the tidewater canal. Another portion of the property was owned by the Mahan family. In 1804, Elizabeth Mahan donated one acre for the construction of a plaster mill which was a cooperative venture of the "Farmers' Society of Harford County", supervised by the Rev. William evenson and John Quarles. The mill was a two-story stone and frame affair, with a horse-powered grinder. Gypsum was landed at a nearby wharf and ground by the members of the society.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford County Land Records
Martenet's Map of 1878
Silver, Albert P.; Lapidum, 1888.
Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage, 1967, French Bray, Baltimore.

### CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.2

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is located on the eastern side of Stafford Road north of Lapidum. It is bounded on the east by the road, to the west and to the south by the Susquehanna State Park and to the north by the property of William L. Derrickson.

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

# TI FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Shaw House, 21 State Circle	TELEPHONE 267-1212
Maryland Historical Trust	May 24, 1976
ORGANIZATION	DATE

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

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Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

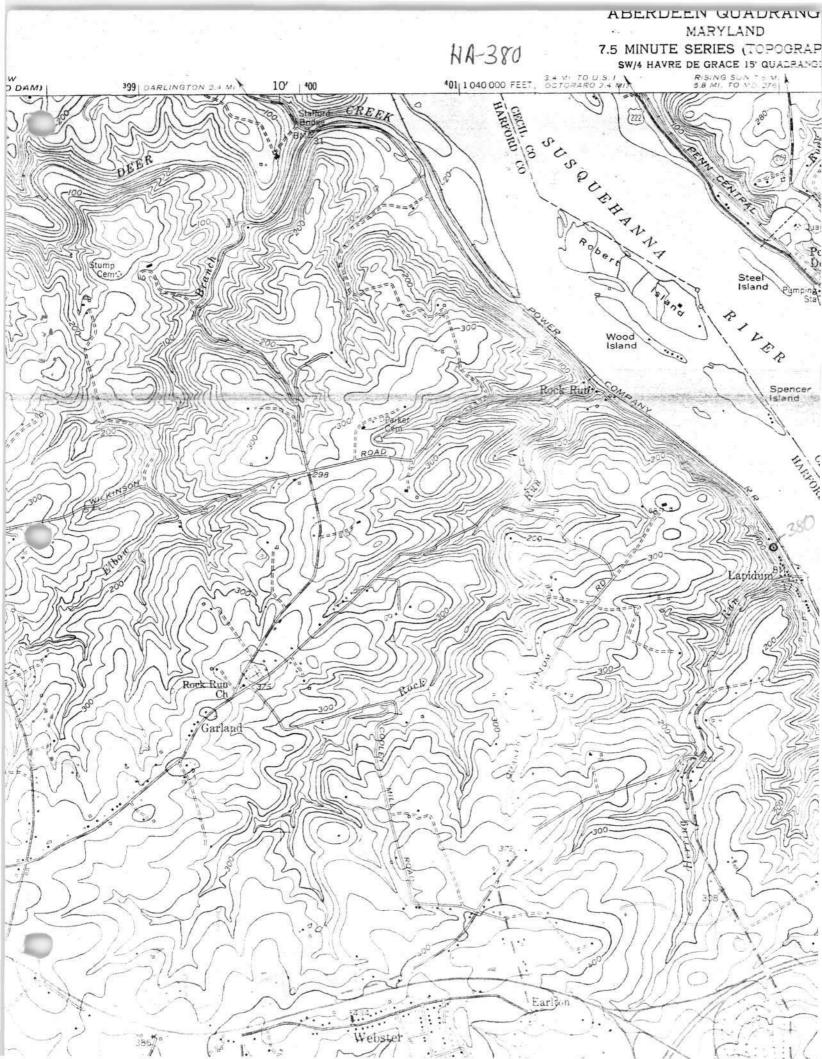
### SUSQUEHANNA STATE PARK PROPERTY

James W. Nicholson House

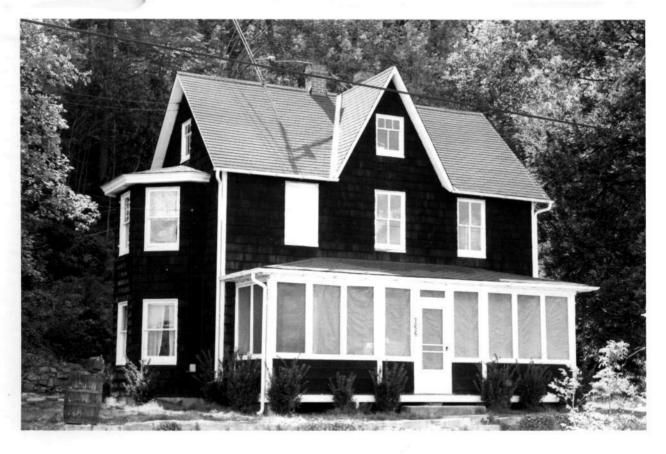
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	GCB	282	414	In 1944, Gertrude H. Aument, widow, sold 3.2 acres to Amos R. Farst.
	GCB	257	<b>1</b> )†	In 1939, Harriet and William V. Spencer sold the 3.2 acres to to W.L. and Gertrude Aument.
	JAR	142	285	In 1913, William V. Spencer sold a thirteen acre plot in Lapidum to his wife, Harriet.
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	wsf	82	106	In 1894, Margaret E. L. Abrahams sold the thirteen acres, more or less, to Philena W. Knight. This deed mentions a burial plot on the premises belonging to Amelia V. Spencer.
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m	Libre		<u>Folio</u>	
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* '	HD	S	3 <b>36</b> 6	In 1806, Samuel Gover sold Isaac Willey a part of the Land of Promise that measured seven and one-quarter acre, more or less.

Samuel Gover acquired these parcels by virtue of a deed from his father, Gerrard, in 1797 (JLG N 467).



MARYLAND 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TIPCORA 401 1 040 000 FEET 10' SUSPUBITANA AND Steel Island ATLER Wood Island Lapidum Bilin :/Garland HA-380 U.S.G.S. MAP ABERDEEN, MD.



Nicholson House HA-380 622 Stafford Road Lapidum, MD Paul Penrod 4/76 Eastside



ABRAHAMS HOUSE
62Z STAFFORD ROAD

SE, ELEVATION

20N BMO; 5/79



HA 380

884455BD

SAF 10

Lapidum - Nicholsen hee

. 0